 H**ertfordshire** R**ugby** F**ootball** U**nion** 

**Hertfordshire Rugby Football Union’s Purpose is**

**“To help our clubs and schools provide and grow enjoyable, fully inclusive, opportunities in rugby in Hertfordshire”.**

**President: Adrian Sparks**

**Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting to be held, via Teams,**

**on Monday 7th October 2024 at 19:30**

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| **1.**  **2.**  **3.**  **4.**  **5.**  **6.**  **7.**  **8.**  **9.**  **10.**  **11.**  **12.** | **Attendees -**  Adrian Sparks, Jeff Boxer, Brent May, Colin Ashwood, Dave Roberts, Adam Cottingham, David Toon, Ross Hopcroft, Steve Waller, Simon Embleton, Terrance Hathaway,  **Apologies for Absence -**  Simon Embleton, Jamie Green, Andy Barford, Ben Furrer, Laura-Jo Pearce, Phil Aspinall  **Declaration of Conflict of Interest -**  Brent May – Referee Society discussions  **Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting on Monday 9th September 2024**  Steve Waller Proposed, seconded by Colin Ashwood. These were passed as a true record of the meeting.  **Matters Arising from the Minutes of Monday 9th September 2024**  No Matters Arising  **Treasurer’s Report –**  The Treasurer’s report was circulated prior to the meeting.  Costs centre reports will be out at the end of the week. Adrain Sparks thanks Brent May for all his work, sorting out the figures.  **Communication/Club Liaison –**  We need to make sure we are regularly in touch with the clubs and that they know who their club liaison officer is. Once a month the officer should be in touch with the clubs, they are responsible.  **Club Compliance/ Club Liaison –**  See Phil Aspinall’s report.  Pitch side safety audits need to be carried out by clubs.  Clubs need to understand ‘pitch side care’.  We need a better understanding of what teams we have in each club, be it 2nd or 3rd XV and do we have strong colts clubs etc coming through.  Do we need to conduct an audit to see what qualified pitch side carers, and should we be looking centrally about getting people qualified, running courses  **Lower XV’s Entering the RFU Leagues –**  David Toon – highlighted we would only potentially have 5 clubs that would look to make this application to come into the league. There is a chance that the no vote will be maintained in Middlesex. Are Middlesex looking to join our breakaway league, how would it look in terms of promotion and relegation. Need to find compromise at level 7, and the planning process of what if and what it would look like.  **RFU Funding and our Obligations –**  Dave Roberts report needs to go out to all chairs and execs, community game future has 15 priorities and are currently working with these, one element working with council, 8 regional boards to be set and funded by the RFU for the first four years, £6million to fund. Will be a role for CB’s, but these will be tasked to keep players in the game, and regional board will be for growing revenue, plus a regional forum set up to shape the future of rugby.  **Marketing -**  Steve Waller – Chamber of Commerce fee is due and is a good way to bring in some sponsorship. Steve is about to be in possession of a couple of more ‘Green Jackets’. If anyone would like one. ‘Christmas do’ is needing to find a venue for about 40 people.  **Director Reports –**  Terence Hathaway’s report was circulated prior to the meeting, the report refers to slides Adam Cottingham had prepared. The meeting looked at end of season 23/24 figures. Highlighting clubs that they were going to be working with closely.  **Any Other Business –**  Brent May – received an invoice for approx. £2500, covers a range of referees from late March/April and May of this year, (last season). Fall into 5 categories - mini and youth festivals, women’s and girl’s tournament rugby, women and girls county championships, senior men’s finals (presidents trophy tankard plate and merit cup table), other representative rugby matches.  We need to think about how many officials we need for each match, do we need a 4th official?  Ross Hopcroft – to go and talk to the 5 clubs that would be looking to make the application on the Lower XV’s. Also spoke about potential procurement between clubs, keep Colin Ashwood in the talks.  Long Standing Member Chris Jones and Hitchin’s treasurer for over 40 years has passed away.  Pride Event on Saturday 5th Oct at Verulamians raised an estimated figure in excess of £2k, was a great day for all involved.  **Date of the Next Meeting**  **Monday 25th November 2024** |  |